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FLOOR DEBATE

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conformity provision. Section 34 you will hear more about later because there is an amendment that is proposed to the committee amendments that affects that section, but the provision in Section 34, together with another provision in the bill, are again aimed at fiscal impacts of these projects. The committee amendments, as they are presented to you, would allow only one application per year in what we would characterize the "Super Tier", as the super tier, and then in a subsequent amendment or a subsequent provision in the amendment there is a provision that that "Super Tier" would sunset on January 1, 2004. Again, those...those combined proposals were a product of concerns in the committee for the fiscal impact of LB 620, and if you look at the fiscal note, and Senator Kristensen may want to have other things to say about the fiscal note, but, at any rate, these things cost money, and if you look at the fiscal note you'll see that the fiscal impact for the bill as introduced in the year 2003 would be \$4.7 million; in the year 2004, \$5.4 million; and in the year 2005, which you'll eventually see on our fiscal status, \$15,300 (sic--\$15,300,000). Those are direct revenue losses that we can estimate for the state of Nebraska that would represent part of the cost. Now, the adoption of the committee amendments may alter those numbers. It is our intention to limit the amount of cost that this kind of a proposal might have for the state of Nebraska. One of the other provisions in the committee amendment that I would suggest to you is an important change, vis-a-vis, what we saw in the...what I would characterize as the old Quality Jobs Act, and that is a provision which is somewhat consistent with the Rural Opportunities Act that we passed last year, that is, requiring companies who wish to receive benefits to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: ...at least pay a higher wage than they would otherwise pay. So we have a proposal that says in order to qualify you have to pay 110 percent of the state's average wage for the year prior, and that average wage is computed based on all employees in the state, whether they are public or private. There is one other provision that I think is important to notice and that is if there is a failure of a company to live up to the promises they have made in the application that there